

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 06963 020846Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 DPW-01 HA-05 /080 W
-----046943 020852Z /10

P R 020804Z JUN 78
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 672
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 6963

FOR FRED BROWN EA/LVC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, US, VM
SUBJECT: US/SRV NORMALIZATION

REF: A) STATE 128354 (NOTAL) B) HONG KONG 6807 (NOTAL)

1. FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW OF MAY 19 CARRIED SHORT
"INTELLIGENCE" NOTE STATING THAT BECAUSE OF WORSENING ECONO-
MIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS, VIETNAM HAS ABADNONED INSIS-
TENCE ON US AID COMMITMENT AND WILL PROCEED WITH NORMALIZA-
TION. "MESSAGE" WAS ALLEGEDLY PASSED THROUGH THIRD COUNTRY.

2. AUTHOR OF ITEM, NAYAN CHANDA, CONFIRMED TO CONGENOFF
THAT INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED BY "HIGHLY RELIABLE" THIRD
COUNTRY DIPLOMAT WHO HAD RECEIVED THE INFORMATION DIRECTLY
FROM THE VIETNAMESE. DIPLOMAT WHOM CHANDA REFUSED TO IDENTIFY,
REPORTEDLY DID NOT KNOW IDENTITY OF COUNTRY CARRYING
MESSAGE.

3. CHANDA RECENTLY MET AMERICAN CHURCH GROUP TRAVELING
THROUGH VIENTIANE WHO INFORMED HIM THAT DURING THEIR
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RECENT TRIP TO VIETNAM, SRV PRIME MINISTER PHAM VAN
DONG SPECIFICALLY DENIED FEER ITEM (REFTEL B). CHANDA
COMMENTED TO CONGENOFF THAT HE WAS NOT DISCOURAGED BY
SUCH A DENIAL SINCE SUCH A MESSAGE WOULD BE PASSED IN A
HIGHLY SEVETIVE MANNER AND THAT THE VIETNAMESE MIGHT
WELL WANT TO DENY SUCH A MOVE TO AN "ACTIVIST GROUP."

4. CHANDA INFORMED CONGENOFF THAT WHILE VISITING VIENTIANE, HE WAS TOLD BY A SENIOR VIETNAMESE DIPLOMAT THAT HIS "INTELLIGENCE ITEM" WAS, IN FACT, CORRECT.

(COMMENT: ALTHOUGH CHANDA DID NOT IDENTIFY VIETNAMESE OFFICIAL BY NAME, HE WAS PUBLICALLY STATED THAT HE INTERVIEWED VIETNAMESE CHARGE NGUYEN SI HOAT IN VIENTIANE WHOM WE SUSPECT IS THE COURSE OF THE "INTELLIGENCE" CONFIRMATION.)

5. ACCORDING TO ANOTHER LOCAL JOURNALIST, WHEN AMERICAN CHURCH GROUP PASSED THROUGH HONG KONG LAST WEEK (REFTEL B) THEY HINTED THAT THE FEER "MESSAGE" HAD, IN FACT, BEEN PASS TO USG BY FORMER AMBASSADOR RIDGWAY KNIGHT OF CHASE MANHATTAN BANK.
SHOESMITH

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, BRIEFING MATERIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197806100/aaaadhvu.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US/SRV NORMALIZATION
TAGS: PDIP, US, VM
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3412077c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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